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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q58782

Hidetoshi KODAMA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/544,543

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: 7511

Examiner: Ly T. TRAN

Filed: April 06, 2000

For: INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS AND RECORDING METHOD THEREFOR

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications if this application was filed after June 30, 2003; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/544,543

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing JP 5-286129 and JP 226059, which are foreign language documents.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits English-language Abstracts as well as the following explanations:

1. JP 5-286129 discloses a platen formed with a plurality of protrusions. A top face of each protrusion is made flat. An ink absorbing member is disposed in an ink receiving hole such that a top face thereof is situated in the vicinity of an aperture of the hole facing a recording head. A U-shaped holder serves to prevent the ink absorbing member from the ink receiving hole. The ink receiving hole is provided as a through hole formed in the platen (cf., paragraphs [0030]-[0035]; Figs. 6 and 7).

2. JP 10-226059 discloses a platen formed with a plurality of protrusions. A top face of each protrusion is made flat (cf., paragraphs [0034]-[0039], [0049]-[0051]; Figs. 1-16).

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/544,543

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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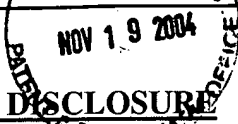
CUSTOMER NUMBER

*for*

Terrance J. Wikberg  
Registration No. 47,177

*R.N.*  
**52,156**

Date: November 19, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/544,543
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				Confirmation Number	7511
				Filing Date	April 06, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Hidetoshi KODAMA
				Art Unit	2853
				Examiner Name	Ly T. TRAN
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q58782

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
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		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	5-286129		11/2/1993	Hirose	Abstract
		JP	10-226059		8/25/1998	Oyama et al.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Japanese Office Action dated August 20, 2004	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.